

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed February 24, 2003, claim 61 has been newly added. Therefore, claims 47-61 are pending. In view of the following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

A. **INTERVIEW**

Examiner Arthur Duran and Primary Examiner James W. Myhre are thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative (Mr. Blaise) during the personal interview on June 3, 2003. A summary of the substance of the interview was provided by Primary Examiner Myhre. See Interview Summary, Paper No. 8.

B. **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (I.D.S.)**

1. An electronic I.D.S. is being filed by Applicants on even date. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner consider the cited references and return a signed copy of the Form PTO-1449 for this submission.

2. An I.D.S. is being filed herewith citing references made of record in prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/425,185, filed April 19, 1995. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the references cited on the Form PTO-1449 have not been provided, as this information was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the prior application referenced above. The application referenced above is relied on for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the cited references and return a signed copy of the Form PTO-1449 for this submission.

C. **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH**

Independent claims 47, 52, & 57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the Specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

In particular, the Examiner alleges that the Specification fails to provide support for the recited claim elements of "*wherein each coupon may be used a pre-determined number of times,*" and "*monitoring redemption of the one or more coupons such that each coupon may be used a predetermined number of times.*" See Office Action, pg. 2. Applicants traverse.

As discussed and agreed during the personal interview on June 3, 2003, and further acknowledged in the Interview Summary (Paper No. 8), the Specification supports setting the predetermined number of times to one. Additionally, as acknowledged in the Interview Summary, "*the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections will be withdrawn upon receipt of a response.*"

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 47, 52, and 57 is earnestly sought.

D. **INTERFERENCE**

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action. As such, Applicants request that an interference be declared between the above-identified application, and U.S. Patent No. 6,075,971 to Williams *et al.*


CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY, AND POPEO, PC

By:


James G. Gallo – Reg. No. 32,694
Bradford C. Blaise – Reg. No. 47,429

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MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY, AND POPEO, PC
12010 Sunset Hills Road
Suite 900
Reston, Virginia 20190
(703) 464-4800 (Telephone)
(703) 464-4895 (Facsimile)

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